

Montana's New Elk Management Plan

Planned Process:

Step # 1



Commission Endorsement: April 23rd 2020

Purpose

- We want Commission input and support for process
- Informed throughout process
 - Commission
 - Public
- Transparency throughout process
 - Commission
 - Public



Commission

Elk Management Plan Initial Guidance Citizens Group

Purpose

- Include diverse stakeholders
 - Define elk management issue statement
 - Define meaningful and enduring principles regarding elk
 - What would successful elk management look like?
- **Group will disband after these tasks are completed**



Commission

Elk Management Plan Initial Guidance Citizens Group

This group will NOT be tasked with:

- Making decisions regarding elk management tools
- Making regional/hunting district specific recommendations
- Writing the Elk Management Plan
- Setting objectives



Commission

Elk Management Plan Initial Guidance Citizens Group

- 10-12 members
- Application process
 - Press release
 - Link on webpage
 - Weekly radio
 - Social media
 - Email to interested persons list
 - Local newspapers
- 30-day application period
- Final selections made by Director Williams
 - Input from FWP staff



Commission

Citizens
Advisory
Group
Applications



FWP Director



Elk Management Plan Citizens Advisory Group

- Meetings will be facilitated by University of Montana personnel
- First group convening will include a day devoted to presenting data on elk and elk management
- Likely two multi-day meetings to accomplish task
- Meetings mid-summer



Commission

Citizens
Advisory
Group
Applications



FWP Director

Citizens
Advisory
Group
Meetings



Products from Citizens Advisory Group

- Issue Statement
- Guiding Principles



Commission

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FWP Director

Citizens
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Meetings



Commission Adoption: Issue Statement & Guiding Principles

Purpose

- Director approval as part of Commission process
- Does the guidance provided meet Commission's expectations of a successful elk management vision?
- Opportunity for additional guidance offered by the Commission
- 30 day public comment period as part of Commission process



Commission

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FWP Director

Citizens
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Meetings



FWP Director



Commission



Public



Commission



We plan on using Commission process to communicate with the Commission and public throughout plan development.

Future process pieces include broad public scoping using public meetings, listening sessions, and online surveys.